



# CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE UPDATE

## **UPDATE ON SEWER MAIN BREAKS IN RIO VISTA NEIGHBORHOOD**

**December 20, 8:00 p.m.**

Following is an update on City operations related to a 54-inch sewer main break located on SE 10 Street along the north side of Virginia Young Park in the Rio Vista neighborhood, as well as ongoing cleanup and remediation efforts in the Hector Park area along Ponce de Leon Drive.

### **Operations at Virginia Young Park**

- Crews have stabilized the pit around the break area and spillage is no longer flowing into the streets.
- Streets in the affected area around Virginia Young Park are mostly dry.
- Up to 14 tanker and vacuum trucks are servicing the area and pumping operations are taking place at locations in the vicinity of the site.
- The contractor has brought four additional pumps on site for backup purposes.
- Work has begun on assembling a 36-inch bypass line that, once completed, will run from Hector Park over the SE 9th Avenue bridge and connect to the 54-inch pipe.
- The contractor has started excavation work at SE 9 Avenue and SE 10 Street to expose a section of the 54-inch pipe and prepare it for the installation of line stop apparatus.

### **Cleanup and Remediation of Ponce de Leon Drive/Hector Park Area**

- Cliff Berry, Inc. (CBI) conducted cleaning, disinfection, and pressure washing of roads, sidewalks, swale areas, and driveways primarily along the north side of Ponce de Leon Drive.
- An additional aerator was installed in the Tarpon River at South Andrews Avenue near Rose Drive. There are 11 aerators operating 24/7 to help improve water quality in the Tarpon River and New River.
- Boats continued to patrol the canal system in and around Rio Vista during daylight hours, from about 8 a.m. until dark, conducting skimming and debris removal on the waterways.

### **Road Closures**

- Roads in the immediate vicinity of the sewer main break at Virginia Young Park are closed including SE 10 Street between SE 9 Avenue and Rio Vista Boulevard, as well as Rio Vista Boulevard between SE 9 Avenue and SE 9 Street.
- SE 9 Avenue will be closed at SE 10 Street to allow crews to begin excavation work for a line stop.
- Ponce de Leon Drive remains closed between SE 9 Avenue and SE 12 Way.

### **Safety Tips**

- Neighbors in the affected area are reminded to avoid contact with any standing water.
- If contact is made, please remember to follow proper hygiene procedures. Wash your hands with soap and warm water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer immediately after contact with wastewater, especially before preparing or eating food.
- Be sure to keep all children and pets away from any area affected by the wastewater spill.

-Keep a container or spray bottle outside residential entryways with a 90/10 solution (90% water to 10% household bleach) to clean shoes and other items that may have come into contact with wastewater.

### **Precautionary Advisory for Water-Related Recreational Activities**

- A precautionary advisory for recreational activities in local waterways remains in effect.
- The boundaries are Broward Boulevard to the north, Poinciana Drive to the east, SE 15 Street to the south, and SW 18 Avenue to the west. Water-related activities including swimming, fishing, jet-skiing, paddle-boarding, kayaking, and canoeing should be avoided within these boundaries.
- To view a map of the precautionary advisory for water-related recreational activities, please visit <http://bit.ly/35l0DuC>.
- To view updates on the City's website, please visit <http://bit.ly/2rBJhLk>.

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